

Basic Combat Training Center of Excellence Fort Jackson, South Carolina

Fort Jackson is the largest and most active Initial Entry Training Center in the U.S. Army, training 50 percent of all Soldiers and 80 percent of the women entering the Army each year. Providing the Army with trained, disciplined, motivated and physically fit warriors who espouse the Army's core values and are focused on teamwork is the post's primary mission. Accomplishing that mission means training in excess of 50,000 basic training and advanced individual training Soldiers every year.

The post has other missions as well. Fort Jackson is home to the U.S. Army Soldier Support Institute, the U.S. Army Chaplains Center and School and the Defense Academy for Credibility Assessment (formerly the Department of Defense Polygraph Institute).

The fort includes more than 52,000 acres, including more than 100 ranges and field training sites and 1,160 buildings. Soldiers, civilians, retirees and family members make up the Fort Jackson community that continues to grow in numbers and facilities. More than 3,900 active duty Soldiers and their 14,000 family members are assigned to the installation and make this area their home.

Fort Jackson employs almost 5,200 civilians and provides services for more than 36,000 retirees and their family members. An additional 12,000 students attend courses at the Soldier Support Institute, Chaplain Center and School and Drill Sergeant School annually.

The fort continues to grow as a result of the Base Realignment and Closure Commission's decision to make Fort Jackson the home of the Army's only Drill Sergeant School, the Armed Forces Chaplain Center and the 81st Regional Reserve Command.

Another exciting change has arrived in the form of family housing with the Residential Communities Initiative. Balfour-Beatty, a private contractor, is currently demolishing old quarters and building new homes. The end result will be 640 new and 210 renovated homes for Army families.

Since 1917, when fighting men were needed for World War I, Fort Jackson has a proud history of supporting our Army in times of war. That tradition continues today as the fort willingly accepts new challenges related to the War on Terrorism and stands ready to accept any additional mission in support of our nation's defense.